--- 20 Cigarettes - “Series of 1897” - 22 x 28 mm. - scanned at 200% scale ---

--- recess printed in RED ink ---

The Budget of 1897 increased the excise duty from the 1889 rate of $ 1.50 to $ 3.00 per thousand for *foreign leaf* cigarettes weighing less than 3 pounds per thousand, and from $ 6.00 to $ 8.00 per thousand for *foreign leaf* cigarettes weighing over 3 pounds per thousand, and additionally imposed an excise duty of $1.50 per thousand on *domestic leaf* cigarettes and weighing less than 3 pounds per thousand.

★**RC-160** - 20 cigarettes, perf 12

★**RC-160 DP** - 20 cigarettes, reddish-brown, a die proof on india paper

[is the die proof a trial-colour proof, or was the red pigment not light-fast?]

★**RC-160 CP** - 20 cigarettes, perf 12 stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic

★**RC-160 CRP** - 20 cigarettes, perf 12, stamped **CANCELLED** and **Registered**

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1897 \ red \ 20 cigarettes],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
December 10th 2013, JBH